



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0803

MAY 27, 2003

Rain Hampers Field Activity

Maryland farmers experienced cool temperatures and soggy field conditions last week. This combination has persisted throughout May resulting in delayed planting, slow harvesting and retarded small grain maturity. There were **2.0 days suitable for field work** for the week ending May 25, 2003. Temperatures averaged 7 degrees below normal for the week, and there were 5 days with measurable rainfall. So far this month, Frederick county received the most rain with 6.7 inches followed by Washington and Charles 6.2, Montgomery 5.5, Garrett, Allegany, and Prince Georges 5.3, Talbot 5.2, Carroll 5.0, St. Mary's 4.9, Dorchester and Howard 4.7, Calvert, Queen Annes, and Caroline 4.6, Anne Arundel 4.5, Baltimore 4.4, Harford and Worcester 4.1, Kent and Wicomico 4.0, Somerset 3.3 and Cecil 2.7.

Winter wheat is in fair to good condition with 7 percent excellent, 48 percent good, 31 percent fair, 11 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor. **Barley** is almost completely headed and 5 percent turned. The crop is in fair to good condition with 8 percent excellent, 54 percent good, 29 percent fair, 6 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor.

Corn is almost 80 percent planted and 58 percent emerged. Hay cutting continues to fall behind. **Other** and **alfalfa hay** harvest is now running at least two weeks behind normal. A small amount of planting progress was made for **soybeans**, **sorghum**, and **vegetables**.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 25, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Small Grain Development:				
Winter Wheat Headed	60	42	99	92
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloupes	64	54	68	74
Cucumbers	34	16	43	49
Field Corn	79	72	92	87
Lima Beans (ALL)	32	24	28	29
Snap Beans	30	20	35	43
Sorghum	20	15	17	17
Soybeans	14	11	25	23
Sweet Corn	65	48	79	76
Tobacco Transplanted	17	13	60	37
Tomatoes	69	62	73	79
Watermelons	70	60	54	63
Fruit Crops:				
Strawberries Harvested	12	4	46	35
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay	16	12	64	54
Other Hay	15	14	47	40

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 25, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	31	69
Topsoil (2002)	3	26	68	3
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	52	48
Subsoil (2002)	7	56	36	1

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